

**A TEXTBOOK OF PATHOLOGY**—7th Edition. E. T. Bell, M.D., Emeritus Professor of Pathology, University of Minnesota. Lea and Febiger, Philadelphia, 1952. 1008 pages, 529 illustrations, 5 color plates, \$12.00.

This is one of the standard American textbooks of pathology which is basically unchanged in the new edition. Twenty-seven of its thirty chapters are again written by Bell, the rest by his colleagues Clawson and McCartney. Downey is accredited with revision of the chapter on *Blood*. It presents a reasonably full account of elementary facts of human pathology. The text has been expanded by about 100 pages. The illustrations continue to be numerous and admirably reproduced. References to the literature are conveniently located after many of the subdivisions of chapters and classical writings are listed frequently if not regularly. The organization of the text is conventional, approximately half the material being presented according to organ systems. There is a well-advised section on the *Value of the Biopsy and How It Should Be Performed* but this is appended to the end of the chapter on *Tumors* and the broader aspects of the value and use of the biopsy in diagnosis are neglected. The structure and content of the book make it a useful handbook to the beginning student. As an introduction to the study of disease on a scholarly plane, it has certain shortcomings. There is a conspicuous lack of anything to orient and shape the attitudes of students entering upon a new and unfamiliar field. The reader is thrust immediately into definitions of special terms in the all-too-brief introduction without benefit of any reflections on the nature and significance of disease. This is exemplary of the categorical character of the text as a whole. The disposition of the subject matter appears ill-chosen in some instances. For example, the discussion of Hemorrhagic Diseases is a subdivision of the chapter on *Circulatory Disturbances*. Disturbances in the metabolism of electrolytes and the pneumoconioses are discussed in a chapter entitled *Retrogressive Tissue Changes*, which are by and large those structural changes in the cell that are the hallmark of injury from a wide variety of causes. *Diseases Due to Deficiency of Vitamins* are described but no other forms of nutritional deficiency in any one section. Hypersensitivity is relegated to a brief paragraph in a section of *Immunology* without being given due consideration as a mechanism of disease. About twenty pages are given to descriptions of some of the viral and rickettsial infections in the chapter on *Bacterial Diseases* but only one page is devoted to a discussion of the broad aspects of the problem of viruses. General remarks on tumors are more adequately presented, comprising about eighteen of the 150 pages on *Tumors*. There is nothing in the style to make this book appreciated as medical literature.

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**FORENSIC MEDICINE**—2nd Edition—Keith Simpson, M.D. (Lond.), Reader in Forensic Medicine to the University of London. Edward Arnold & Co., London (Williams and Wilkins, Baltimore), 1952. 344 pages, \$4.50.

This second edition of an excellent textbook provides a brief and essentially practical guide to current teaching in forensic medicine.

While the legal premises are fundamentally those of England and Scotland, the work should serve as a reliable guide to the physician in his contacts with the law arising out of his practice.

Several sections, notably those dealing with death under anesthesia, asphyxia, and industrial injuries, have been rewritten and statistics have been brought up to date. Discussion of laboratory procedure (which in practice properly belongs to the specialist) has been kept to a minimum.

The subject matter is presented in a vivid and interesting manner.

**SHOCK TREATMENTS, PSYCHOSURGERY AND OTHER SOMATIC TREATMENTS IN PSYCHIATRY**—2nd Revised and Enlarged Edition—Lothar B. Kalinowsky, M.D., Research Associate in Psychiatry, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University, and New York State Psychiatric Institute and Hospital; and Paul H. Hock, M.D., Principal Research Scientist (Psychiatry), New York State Psychiatric Institute and Hospital; Assistant Professor, College of Physicians and Surgeons, Columbia University. Grune & Stratton, New York, 1952. 396 pages, \$8.75.

The second edition of this volume has been revised and enlarged, particularly in the description of psychosurgery. There is no doubt that this is the most thorough and comprehensive book available on the general theme of physiological treatment in psychiatry. Beginning with an account of the historical development of these therapies, the authors proceed to outline in detail the literature on the subject of insulin and convulsive therapies, indicating the various techniques and modifications, complications, therapeutic results, psychological, neurological and laboratory observations, and add their own opinions of and critical comments on these procedures. The chapter on psychosurgery is admirably written, and techniques such as a standard procedure, partial lobotomy, leukotomy, gyrectomy, topectomy, cortical undercutting, thalamotomy, and transorbital lobotomy; complications, physical, neurological and psychological changes resulting, and therapeutic results in schizophrenia, affective disorders and psychoneuroses, are all presented.

Somatic methods of treatment in psychiatry are not new, but the present-day application of the so-called "drastic therapies" is about sixteen years old. There are other somatic therapies other than the shock therapies, and psychosurgery and the use of narcotherapy, drugs like benzedrine, acetylcholine, histamine, myanesin and glutamic acid, besides such treatment as nitrogen inhalation therapy, carbon dioxide and ether are outlined. The "Antabuse" therapy of alcoholism developed in recent years is also given. The many theories offered to explain the modus operandi of these treatments are discussed, and the authors conclude by stating "at present we can say only that we are treating empirically disorders whose etiology is unknown, with methods such as shock treatments whose action is also shrouded in mystery." The bibliography is detailed and excellently chosen. This volume remains the most comprehensive and authoritative in the field.

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**TEXTBOOK OF MEDICINE**—10th Edition—Edited by Sir John Conybeare, K.B.E., M.C., D.M.(Oxon.), F.R.C.P., Physician to Guy's Hospital, London; and W. N. Mann, M.D.(Lond.), F.R.C.P., Assistant Physician to Guy's Hospital. The Williams and Wilkins Company, Baltimore, 1952. 912 pages, \$8.00.

The tenth edition of this textbook of medicine appears three years after the publication of the ninth edition. There is, for the first time, a coeditor in Dr. W. N. Mann, a colleague at Guy's Hospital.

The new edition embodies revision and some rewriting in many sections. It is interesting to find that many of the items singled out for criticism in review of the ninth edition in *California Medicine* (71:317, Oct. 1949) have been corrected: For instance, a new appendix has been added on the sulfonamides and antibiotics (attempting to summarize the position at the date of going to press); there has been improvement of the sketchy section on endocrinology; propylthiouracil is now advocated instead of thiouracil in the therapy of thyrotoxicosis; and croton oil purgation is no longer recommended for cerebral hemorrhage.

As noted in our 1949 review, this book is primarily a text for the British medical student. It will still bear reading by the American physician for comparison and interest.